by the Ministry or Power that the prospective investors were disinclined to accept this block as substantial part of the reserves would have to be mined by underground mining techniques. Ministry of Power had, therefore, sought alternate blocks which would have sufficient geological reserves and which could be mined through opencast techniques. Three coal blocks at Dumargarh, Karimati and Sheregarha with geological reserves adequate to meet the needs of this power plant had been identified. The matter is under further consideration of the Ministry of Power.

Trade with Algeria

6647. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Indo-Algerian Joint Committee meeting held recently for the promotion of bilateral trade;

(b) if so, the details of issues discussed and the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to boost the trade with Algeria ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) The 6th Session of the Indo-Algerian Joint Commission was held in New Delhi during March 3-6, 1997.

(b) and (c) Both sides expressed their determination to raise the present level of bilateral trade through various trade promotional activities. Both sides identified areas of cooperation such as drugs and pharmaceuticals, small and medium scale industries, heavy industry, electronics and telecommunications, textiles, leather, railway transport, air-transport, shipping services, etc.

KVIC

6648. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the State-wise amount spent on Apiculture by Khadi and Village Industries Commission and other such agencies during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : Apiculture (Beekeeping) Industry is one of the Village Industries under the purview of KVIC. A statement-I showing the State-wise amount spent on Beekeeping by KVIC during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 is attached.

in addition, the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is also implementing a scheme "Development of Beekeeping for improving crop productivity in India" since 1994-95. Funds released for implementing the various components of the scheme to the implementing agencies including State Governments are indicated in the statement-II attached.

Statement-I

Statewise/yearwise Disbursement of Funds by KVIC on Apiculture during 1994-95 to 1996-97

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	State	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5
01.	Andhra Pradesh	0.55	1.69	–
02.	Arunachal Pradesh	–	–	–
03.	Assam	3.19	6.32	3.60
04.	Bihar	0.33	27.63	13.79
05.	Goa	–	–	–
06.	Gujarat	–	–	–
07.	Haryana	0.50	–	8.00
80.	Himachal Pradesh	4.07	7.36	8.70
09.	Jammu & Kashmir	–	6.38	–
10.	Karnataka	2.23	3.26	–
11.	Kerala	3.18	15.45	10.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	0.61	0.13	–
13.	Maharashtra	9.61	5.39	3.88
14.	Manipur	–	0.25	4.10
15.	Meghalaya	1.11	–	0.47
16.	Mizoram	–	2.78	0.25
17.	Nagaland	5.63	0.02	–
18.	Orissa	0.14	5.70	0.50
19.	Punjab	1.59	4.61	19.85
20.	Rajasthan	–	–	–
21.	Sikkim	–	–	–
22.	Tamil Nadu	16.10	1.67	–